

MINUTES

HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON CORRECTIONS

DATE: March 11, 2019

The subcommittee meeting was called to order by Representative Albert at 9:00 a.m.

Roll was taken: Present – Representatives Albert, Slagh, Lightner, Maddock, Pagan, Sabo, Anthony, and Kennedy
Absent – Representative VanSingel

I. Approval of Minutes from Previous Subcommittee Meeting

A motion was moved by Representative Slagh to approve the minutes from the subcommittee meeting held on February 20, 2019. The motion prevailed, a majority of the members voting in the affirmative.

II. Presentation on FY 2019-20 Executive Budget

Heidi Washington, Director of the Department of Corrections, appeared before the subcommittee to give an overview of the FY 2019-20 executive budget recommendation. She discussed the following:

A. Investments

1. The executive budget includes \$10.5 million to train an additional 408 corrections officers to meet projected attrition needs. Between 50 and 55 officers retire each month. With the additional funding added to \$9.5 million in the base, the department would be able to train roughly 779 new officers in FY 2020.
2. The executive budget includes \$4.6 million for the department to replace roughly 6,000 GPS devices. The current contract utilizes a 3G network, which will be switched over to a 4G network at the start of the year. This forces the department to purchase new tether units that are compatible with the new network.
3. The executive budget includes \$2.1 million for the department to convert a housing unit at the Thumb Correctional Facility to specifically house elderly prisoners that have intense treatment needs.

B. Current Services Baseline Adjustments

1. The executive budget includes \$5.4 million to cover costs of required inflationary adjustments.
2. The executive budget includes \$7.0 million for the department to expand treatment of Hepatitis C to prisoners identified with metavir scores of F1 and F0.
3. The executive budget includes funding to cover mileage rate increases (\$324,100), lease cost increases for transportation vans (\$102,300), water and sewer rate increases (\$97,000), and employee economics (\$23.4 million).

C. Reductions

1. The executive budget includes a reduction of \$4.7 million due to eliminating the following programs: Goodwill Flip the Script (\$1.5 million), Substance Abuse Parole Certain Sanction Program (\$1.4 million), Supervising Region Incentive Program (\$1.0 million), Online High School Equivalency Pilot Program (\$500,000), Federally Qualified Health Center Pilot Program (\$250,000), and Kitchen Inspections program (\$50,000).
2. The executive budget includes a reduction of \$6.8 million, which is the remaining balance of full year savings from closure of the Ojibway Correctional Facility.

Discussion ensued (questions and answers).

III. Adjourn

Representative Albert adjourned the subcommittee meeting at 10:10 a.m.